IN THE CLAIMS:

The text of all pending claims, (including withdrawn claims) is set forth below. Cancelled and not entered claims are indicated with claim number and status only. The claims as listed below show added text with underlining and deleted text with strikethrough. The status of each claim is indicated with one of (original), (currently amended), (cancelled), (withdrawn), (new), (previously presented), or (not entered).

Please CANCEL claims 1-15 without prejudice or disclaimer in accordance with the following:

1-15 **(cancelled)**

16. **(previously presented)** An optical recording medium recorder/reproducer, comprising:

an optical pickup used to record and/or reproduce data onto/from the optical recording medium, and

a programmed processor controlling the optical pickup according to a process comprising:

providing a user data area, and a lead-out area at an outermost circumference of the optical recording medium, and

recording predetermined patterns on the lead-out area to prevent the optical pickup from deviating from the user data area during recording and/or reproduction of data.

17. **(previously presented)** The recorder/reproducer of claim 16, wherein the processor controls the recording predetermined patterns by repeatedly recording patterns used in the user data area.

18. **(previously presented)** The recorder/reproducer of claim 17, wherein the recording medium comprises two or more recording layers for multi-layer recording, and the processor provides for each recording layer the user data area and the lead-out area, and the processor forms, for each recording layer, grooves and lands on the user data area and the lead-out area, forms wobbles on at least one lateral surface of each groove, and the wobbles of the lead-out area have different characteristics from those of the user data area.

19.   (previously presented) The recorder/reproducer of claim 18, wherein the processor provides for the two or more recording layers different recording patterns from one another.

20.   (previously presented) The recorder/reproducer of claim 19, wherein the processor provides a lead-out area having a width of two or more times a maximum allowance of disc eccentricity.

21.   (previously presented) The recorder/reproducer of claim 20, wherein the processor provides different synchronization patterns of signals in the user data area from the lead-out area.

22.   (previously presented) The recorder/reproducer of claim 20, wherein the processor provides for the two or more recording layers different synchronization patterns in their lead-out areas from one another.

23.   (previously presented) The recorder/reproducer of claim 16, wherein the processor controls the recording predetermined patterns that are different from those used in the user data area.

24.   (previously presented) The recorder/reproducer of claim 23, wherein the recording medium comprises two or more recording layers for multi-layer recording, and the processor provides for each recording layer the user data area and the lead-out area, and the processor forms, for each recording layer, grooves and lands on the user data area and the lead-out area, forms wobbles on at least one lateral surface of each groove, and the wobbles of the lead-out area have different characteristics from those of the user data area.

25.   (previously presented) The recorder/reproducer of claim 24, wherein the processor provides for the two or more recording layers different recording patterns from one another.

26. **(previously presented)** The recorder/reproducer of claim 25, wherein the processor provides a lead-out area having a width of two or more times a maximum allowance of disc eccentricity.

27. **(previously presented)** The recorder/reproducer of claim 26, wherein the processor provides different synchronization patterns of signals in the user data area from the lead-out area.

28. **(previously presented)** The recorder/reproducer of claim 26, wherein the processor provides for the two or more recording layers different synchronization patterns in their lead-out areas from one another.

29. **(previously presented)** The recorder/reproducer of claim 23, wherein the processor records on grooves and/or lands formed on the user data area and the lead-out area.

30. **(previously presented)** The recorder/reproducer of claim 1, wherein the processor records on grooves and/or lands formed on the user data area and the lead-out area.

31. **(previously presented)** An optical recording medium reproducer, comprising:

an optical pickup used to reproduce data from the optical recording medium receivable by the reproducer, the receivable optical recording medium comprising:

a user data area, and a lead-out area at an outermost circumference of the optical recording medium,

predetermined patterns recorded on the lead-out area to prevent the optical pickup from deviating from the user data area during reproduction of data, and

data recorded on grooves and/or lands formed on the user data area and the lead-out area; and

a programmed processor controlling the optical pickup according to a process comprising:

reproducing the data recorded on the grooves and/or the lands formed on the user data area and the lead-out area, the predetermined patterns on the lead-out area preventing the optical pickup from deviating from the user data area during the reading of the data.